

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3002

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR NATO

SUBJECT: US SPECIAL PROGRAM,SLICES XXVI-XXX

REFS: A. ECCS 9410

B. STATE 119290

C. USNATO 2282

D. STATE 99253

BEGIN SUMMARY. WHILE RECOGNIZING PROBLEMS OUTLINED REF A, WE
CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT WORKING GROUP REPORT SHOULD BE APPROVED
AS BASIS FOR SPECIAL PROGRAM, WHILE LEAVING PROGRAM OPEN-ENDED FOR
POSSIBLE ADDITIONS AT A LATER DATE. END SUMMARY.

1. PROBLEMS RELATED IN REF A HAD EVOLVED PRIOR TO MISSION
REQUEST FOR GUIDANCE (REF C) AND WERE THEREFORE TAKEN INTO CONSIDER-
ATION. MISSION PRESENTED RECLAMA TO WG 27 ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS FOR
EXCLUDED PROJECTS, INCLUDING THOSE CITED REF A WHICH ARE CURRENTLY
IN CATEGORIES II OR III. AFTER ANALYSIS OF ALL POSITIONS, WE
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DO NOT BELIEVE THAT ADDITIONAL RECLAMA, EITHER IN THE WORKING
GROUP OR THE INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE, WILL MOVE ANY
OF THESE LATTER PROJECTS TO CATEGORY I AT THIS TIME. MOST IMPORTANT
REASON FOR THIS IS UK POSITION THAT INCLUSION OF DOUBTFUL PROJECTS

WILL CAUSE UK MINISTRIES TO WITHHOLD FINAL AGREEMENT TO SPECIAL PROGRAM AND THUS TO COST SHARING OF SLICES XXVI-XXX, OF WHICH SPECIAL PROGRAM FUNDING IS AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT.

2. THE BASIC CRITERION FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE US LIST OF CANDIDATE PROJECTS WAS INCLUSION OF PROJECTS FOR WHICH CONGRESSIONAL FUND AUTHORIZATION WOULD OTHERWISE BE SOUGHT IN THE 1975-79 PERIOD. THE ORIGINAL US LIST WOULD HAVE COST SOME THREE TIMES THE \$100 MILLION NOW IN THE SPECIAL PROGRAM; AND THE REDUCED CATEGORY I LIST NOW

AGREED BY THE WORKING GROUP STILL TOTALS 50 PCT MORE THAN THE AVAILABLE

SPECIAL PROGRAM FUNDS. WE THUS FAIL TO SEE THE RATIONALE FOR TURNING DOWN OR DELAYING THE SPECIAL PROGRAM AS IS PROPOSED IN REF A. IN EFFECT, ANY ADDITIONAL FUNDS REQUIRED FOR INELIGIBLE URGENT PROJECTS

MUST BE SOUGHT FROM CONGRESS. THE FACT THAT SOME PROJECTS FINALLY EXCLUDED BY THE ALLIES ARE OF HIGH PRIORITY TO US SERVICES, AND DOD, SHOULD INCREASE THE LIKELIHOOD THAT CONGRESS WILL FUND THEM.

3. MISSION COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC PROJECTS MENTIONED REF A, PARA 3, FOLLOW:

A. GIEBELSTADT. FROM THE OUTSET, THE ALLIES HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THEY PREFER NOT TO INCLUDE PERSONNEL SUPPORT FACILITIES IN THE SPECIAL PROGRAM. MISSION SEES NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT ALLIES WILL TAKE A DIFFERENT VIEW OF THE GIEBELSTADT EM/OFF HOUSING.

B. BITBURG. FLIGHT SIMULATOR MAY STILL BE INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM BY THE INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE IF MISSION CAN MAKE ITS CASE FOR TRAINING FACILITIES AS AN ELIGIBLE CATEGORY. CONVERTORS AND SOUND SUPPRESSORS ARE LESS LIKELY.

C. RAMSTEIN COICC HAS BEEN REFUSED BY WORKING GROUP AFTER NUMEROUS RELCAMAS, AND MISSION BELIEVES THAT ALLIES SEE IT AS AN ATTEMPT BY US TO INFLUENCE THE GENERAL ADP QUESTION
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WITHIN NATO. ALLIES ARE PARTICULARLY RELUCTANT TO INCLUDE PROJECT BECAUSE WE CAN TELL THEM VERY LITTLE ABOUT THE OPERATION OR ABOUT DEGREE OF NATO ACCESS TO THE FACILITIES. WE ARE READY TO RENEW EFFORTS HERE WHEN WE HAVE SUFFICIENT FACTS TO MAKE A MORE PERSUASIVE CASE FOR THE COIICC'S DIRECT INTEREST TO NATO.

D. FACILITIES AT EDZELL (IAU 3 MILLION) WERE ORIGINALLY RECOMMENDED BY NATO INTERNATIONAL STAFF FOR INCLUSION, WHILE THOSE AT NEA MAKRI (IAU 440,000) WERE NOT RECOMMENDED. LATER NATO INTERNATIONAL STAFF NOTED THAT FACILITIES WERE COMPARABLE AND WITHDREW ITS SUPPORT FOR EDZELL. MISSION CONSIDERS IT STILL POSSIBLE THAT BOTH THESE PROJECTS COULD BE INCLUDED AT A LATER DATE, RECOGNIZING THAT SUCH INCLUSION WOULD EXCLUDE FUNDING OF ALREADY

ACCEPTED PROJECTS.

4. WE MAINTAIN OUR RECOMMENDATION (PARA 5, REF C) THAT
CURRENT WORKING GROUP LISTING OF ELIGIBLE PROJECTS FOR SPECIAL PRO-
GRAM BE ACCEPTED BY THE US AS ESTABLISHING THE TYPES OF PROJECTS ELIG

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IBLE FOR FUNDING UNDER THAT PRIARM ON THE CONDITION THAT THE
LIST REMAIN OPEN-ENDED FOR SUBSTITUTION OF PROJECTS
COMPATIBLE WITH THE CATEGORIES ALREADY ACCEPTED. WE ARE CONCERNED
THAT INSISENCE NOW BY THE US ON INCLUSION OF ADDITONAL PROJECTS
OR TYPES OF PROJECTS WOULD JEOPARDIZE THE CURRENT TENTATIVE
APPROVAL BY THE ALLIES. ANY US EFFORT TO DELAY OR OTHERWISE MANI-
PULATE THE SPECIAL PROGRAM MIGHT ENDANGER THE FIVE-YEAR COST
SHARING AGREEMENT NOW WITHIN OUR GRASP.
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